Delaware Department of Agriculture Pesticides Section, Enforcement 2320 South DuPont Highway Dover, Delaware 19901 Enforcement Action/Violation

Respondent:

Double "E" Lawncare 33058 Nassau Loop Lewes, DE 19958

Violations:

§1224(a)(10) – Neglecting or, after notice, refusing to comply with the LAW, the rules adopted under the LAW or any lawful order of the Department .

Penalty:

Respondent signed a consent agreement on May 16th 2017. In the agreement, Respondent agrees to the imposition of disciplinary sanctions which included a civil penalty of \$1050.00

STIPULATED FACTS

- 1. Double "E" Lawncare, ("Respondent") is a commercial pesticide applicator business with an office located at 33058 Nassau Loop, Lewes DE 19958. Respondent does not have a pesticide business license issued by the Delaware Department of Agriculture ("Department").
- 2. Tommy Engel ("Engel") is the owner of Double "E" Lawncare. At the time of the inspection Mr. Engel's certification (01-233) had expired on 12/31/2003.
- 3. Juan Gutierrez ("Gutierrez") is employed by Double "E" Lawncare. Mr. Gutierrez is not a certified applicator or a registered service employee.
- 4. The Pesticide Section of the Department ("Complainant,") is bringing this enforcement action against Respondent. James Hughes, ("Hughes"), is employed as an Environmental Program Manager I with the Department. Dustin Borntreger, ("Borntreger"), is employed as an Environmental Scientist II with the Department.
- 5. On Tuesday, April 4th 2017, Hughes observed a backpack sprayer and a 2 ½ gallon container of what appeared to be a pesticide sitting on a lawn located on Eleanor Lee Lane East in the Canal Cockran development. Hughes issued a Notice of

Inspection to Juan Gutierrez. Mr. Gutierrez stated that he remembered talking to Hughes during a previous inspection for the company not having a Pesticide Business license. The 2 ½ gallon contained Quali-Pro Glyphosate Plus Herbicide (EPA Reg. No. 66222-176)

- 6. Gutierrez stated that he wasn't going to make an application of Quali-Pro Glyphosate Plus Herbicide. Hughes asked why the backpack and 2 ½ gallon jug were present and Gutierrez did not answer.
- 7. Photograph of the lawn area shows the backpack sprayer and pesticide container. Photographs taken at the scene clearly show the trailer being towed by a white Ford pickup truck with tag number C98547 is labeled "Double "E" Lawncare Residential and Commercial 302-745-3159"
- 8. On July 23rd, 2013 a Notice of Warning was mailed via certified mail to Engel located at 33058 Nassau Loop, Lewes, DE 19958. This notice stated that a pesticide business license is required was required and that workers should wear proper PPE. The certified mail receipt signed by Engel is attached to the letter on file.
- 9. In the past 5 years, Respondent has no pesticide compliance violations with the Department.